

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A mutant rabies virus comprising a rabies virus N protein, wherein said N protein is not phosphorylated, wherein said mutant rabies virus is produced by a process comprising introducing a mutation in the nucleic acid of an infectious clone at a position encoding amino acid 389 of said N protein.

2-62. (Canceled).

63. (Previously Presented) The mutant rabies virus of claim 1, wherein the mutation results in the amino acid at position 389 being a neutral amino acid.

64. (Previously Presented) The mutant rabies virus of claim 63, wherein the mutation results in the amino acid at position 389 being alanine, glycine, glutamine, glutamic acid, aspartic acid or asparagine.

65. (Previously Presented) The mutant rabies virus of claim 64, wherein the mutations results in the amino acid at position 389 being alanine.

66. (Previously Presented) The mutant rabies virus of claim 1, wherein said mutant rabies virus N protein is encoded by SEQ ID NO:62, SEQ ID NO:63 or SEQ ID NO:64.

67. (Previously Presented) The mutant rabies virus of claim 66, wherein said mutant rabies virus N protein is encoded by SEQ ID NO:62.
68. (Previously Presented) The mutant rabies virus of claim 1, further comprising a mutant G glycoprotein.
69. (Previously Presented) The mutant rabies virus of claim 68, wherein said G glycoprotein comprises an amino acid other than arginine at position 333.
70. (Previously Presented) The mutant rabies virus of claim 69, wherein said G glycoprotein comprises a Glu at position 333.
71. (Previously Presented) A vaccine composition comprising the mutant rabies virus of claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
72. (Previously Presented) A method of inducing an immune response to rabies virus in a mammal, comprising administering to said mammal an amount of the vaccine composition of claim 71 effective to induce said immune response.
73. (Previously Presented) A method of protecting a mammal from rabies, comprising administering to said mammal an amount of the vaccine composition of claim 71 effective to protect said mammal from infection by rabies virus.

74. (Previously Presented) A host cell for production of the mutant rabies virus of claim 1, comprising a mammalian host cell which produces a wild-type rabies virus N protein.

75. (Previously Presented) A method for producing a mutant rabies virus, comprising growing said mutant rabies virus in the host cell of claim 74.

76. (Previously Presented) A vector for delivering a gene to a cell of a human or animal, comprising the gene to be delivered operably inserted in the mutant rabies virus of claim 1.

77. (Previously Presented) A method for delivering a gene to a cell of a human or animal, comprising administering to the human or animal the vector of claim 76.